

Message Text

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51

ACTION NEA-10

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FM AMEMBASSY TEHRAN

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2024

UNCLAS TEHRAN 5794

E.O. 11652: NA

TAGS: EAGR IR

SUBJ: JOINT VENTURE INSHEEP RAISING

REF: STATE 134151

1. AGRICULTURE ATTACHE'S OFFICE DISCUSSED ETCHEVARRE (VICE ETCHEPAR) JOINT VENTURE SHEEP RAISING PROPOSAL WITH DEPUTY MINISTER FOR AGRICULTURE AND NATURAL RESOURCES GHAVAMIAN WHO PERSONALLY ARRANGED EXTENSIVE SCHEDULE DURING 1974 ETCHEVARRE VISIT IRAN.

2. MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE SAID INTERESTED IN PROPOSALS ETCHEVARRE PRESENTED BUT QUOTATIONS OF EWES-\$95/ANIMAL AND RAMS \$250/ANIMAL WERE SUBSTANTIALLY HIGHER THAN QUOTATIONS OF ANOTHER COUNTRY (NOT IDENTIFIED) FOR HIGH QUALITY SHEEP (EWES \$55/ANIMAL, RAMS \$110/ ANIMAL).

3. MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE SAYS THAT FOLLOWING APPOINTMENTS WITH DR. SAMII OF AGRICULTURE DEVELOPMENT BANK (ADBI), DR. RAM OF BANK OMRAN, AND MR. MOHAMMADI OF GONBAD, ETCHEVARRE WAS SUPPOSED TO SUBMIT A FEASIBILITY DOCUMENT OUTLINING OBJECTIVES OF THE PROJECT WITHIN THREE MONTHS AND TO REGISTER A JOINT VENTURE WITH THE THREE PARTNERS. MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE SAYS IT HAS NOT HARD FROM ETCHEVARRE SINCE.

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4. ADBI AND BANK OMRAN EVIDENTLY BELIEVE THAT ETCHEVARRE'S

PROPOSAL WHICH CALLS FOR REIMBURSEMENT FOR MANAGEMENT EXPERTISE WITHOUT EQUITY PARTICIPATION IS EXPENSIVE. AGRIBUSINESS JOINT VENTURES IN IRAN, AS WELL AS MANUFACTURING JOINT VENTURES, USUALLY REQUIRE EQUITY PARTICIPATION OF FOREIGN PARTNERS AS A DEMONSTRATION OF GOOD FAITH AND LONG TERM INTEREST, IRRESPECTIVE OF ACUTAL NEED FOR FINANCING FROM OUTSIDE SOURCES.

5. SUGGEST THAT ETCHEVARRE COMMUNICATE DIRECTLY WITH PARTNERS MENTIONED PARA 3 AND/OR WITH GHAVAMIAN AT MINISTRY REGARDING NEXT STEPS.
HELMS

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